



General Assembly

January Session, 2005

**Substitute Bill No. 5169**

\* \_\_\_\_\_ HB05169PH \_\_\_\_\_ 022405 \_\_\_\_\_ \*

**AN ACT CONCERNING QUALITY OF CARE IN CHRONIC DISEASE HOSPITALS.**

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1       Section 1. Section 19a-253 of the general statutes is repealed and the  
2       following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2005*):

3       [The Department of Public Health shall admit to chronic disease  
4       hospitals only patients with chronic illness and shall give preference to  
5       patients receiving public assistance from the state or any political  
6       subdivision thereof.] On and after October 1, 2005, no patient shall be  
7       admitted to a chronic disease hospital, unless the medical director of  
8       the hospital determines that the hospital and its medical staff are  
9       capable of providing adequate care and treatment to the patient,  
10       consistent with the hospital's by-laws. In making such determination,  
11       the medical director shall have access to the patient's medical records  
12       and may examine the patient.

13       Sec. 2. Section 19a-6 of the general statutes is repealed and the  
14       following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2005*):

15       (a) The commissioner shall be responsible for planning state-wide  
16       programs for the control and treatment of lung diseases; the treatment  
17       of persons affected with other chronic illness, and the medical  
18       rehabilitation of chronically ill, physically disabled and handicapped

19 persons. The commissioner shall [provide and maintain facilities and  
20 personnel for the diagnosis or detection and treatment of such diseases  
21 or] enter into contracts for the provision of diagnostic and treatment  
22 programs for such diseases with persons or organizations capable in  
23 [his] the commissioner's judgment of providing such services.

24 (b) The commissioner shall be responsible for the administration of  
25 the department's programs as they relate to lung disease, other chronic  
26 illness and medical rehabilitation. [He shall be responsible for the  
27 administration and operation of the chronic disease hospitals of the  
28 Department of Public Health. As used in this chapter, "chronic illness"  
29 means conditions which require prolonged definitive hospital or  
30 restorative care as distinguished from diseases or conditions which  
31 may be properly cared for in convalescent, custodial or domiciliary  
32 facilities; "chronic disease hospital" means a hospital operated by the  
33 Department of Public Health; and "medical rehabilitation" means  
34 specific medical therapies directed toward the reduction of the effect of  
35 disability resulting from a chronic disease.]

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	October 1, 2005	19a-253
Sec. 2	October 1, 2005	19a-6

**PH** Joint Favorable Subst.